



CALPEEK

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DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE INITIATIVE OPPONENTS BEGIN TO ORGANIZE FOR MAR. 2000 BALLOT WAR.

Editor's note: Originally, State Sen. Pete Knight(R-Palmdale) had hoped to qualify his "Definition of Marriage" initiative in time for the 1998 ballot. But it just missed and thus will be on the Mar. 7, 2000 primary ballot. Here's our first update & analysis...

...This initiative statute adds a provision to the Family Code which says that only a marriage between a man and woman is valid or recognized in Calif. This is one of those *wedge issues* that Gov. Gray Davis and many other Demos, especially those from marginal districts, would just as soon avoid...

...Regardless, key members of Calif.'s well organized and politically active gay & lesbian communities have met once in L.A. to discuss Knight's initiative and are set to gather again Feb. 26th in S.F., at a meeting hosted by Assemblywoman Carole Migden(D-S.F.). The first L.A. meeting was hosted by Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl(D-Santa Monica). Migden & Kuehl are both lesbians and are powerful members of the Demo Assembly Caucus...

...As a result of the first meeting, Decision Research was hired to doing a preliminary survey, while pollster Celinda Lake will concentrate on focus groups. Decision Research did polling in Alaska when a similar measure was approved by voters. Lake has been doing polling for the *Human Rights Campaign* for some time. Other consultants involved in the early steering committee activities include Robert Barnes of S.F., Mike Marshall of S.F. and Susan Burnside of L.A. In addition to Demo gay & lesbian leaders, reps from the GOP's Log Cabin Clubs have been involved...

...The Definition of Marriage measure could turn into a

hot wedge issue, but consider this: suppose CA's gay & lesbian leadership refused to get drawn into what undoubtedly would turn into a ugly campaign --- and instead focused their efforts on a strong domestic partnership law for CA, that would impact not only gay couples, but straight couples and seniors who live together. In this state, gay marriages have never been a part of the agenda of the gay & lesbian political leadership...

...FYI: In L.A., Councilman Mike Feuer got his colleagues on the council to go on record opposing Knight's initiative. The vote was 9-2. Stay tuned...

IMPEACHMENT FINALLY OVER AND NOW IT'S TIME TO LOOK AT CALPEEK'S WINNERS AND LOSERS.

Editor's note: The Senate impeachment trial has concluded and now it's time to check out the political damage. Here's our analysis and commentary...

...The U.S. House impeachment case against William Jefferson Clinton(D) ended in acquittal on both counts. On charge #1 (perjury), 9 GOP Senators crossed party lines -- so the vote was 54 for acquittal. On charge #2 (obstruction) -- 5 GOPers crossed over, thus the final vote was 50-50. Both were way short of the 2/3rds required. After the vote, Pres. Clinton was again apologetic --- but for the first time in 13 months he took responsibility for causing the problem...

...Impeachment is a political process and it was clear from the outset that if Pres. Clinton was to be removed from office for his *L'affaire Lewinsky* and all its ramifications (perjury & obstruction of justice), the process had to be bipartisan. It wasn't. **Calpeek** now takes a look at *Winner & Losers*...

● **William Jefferson Clinton** -- The President was

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acquitted, but he'll always be remembered as the 2nd president to be impeached. And he's got no one to blame but himself. Is it time for a *lobotomy on his libido*???

- ***The First Lady*** – When Bubba does something stupid like this, Hillary Clinton's polling numbers skyrocket. She's a big winner and possibly looking at a 2000 U.S. Senate run in NY...

- ***That woman, Ms. Lewinsky*** – Please re-read that cover story in Time Magazine (2/13/98) next time you want to call Monica Lewinsky "that poor little victim." Hey folks, she was 22 going on 32 and *California Fast*. This is not to excuse Pres. Clinton's reckless behavior, but doesn't Monica owe an apology to Mrs. Clinton???

- ***The GOP-controlled U.S. House*** – Big political losers. House GOPers were stampeded by Whip Tom DeLay of Texas - #1 Clinton hater among Republicans. Collectively, the GOP House members acted like the 1868 Radical Republicans who went after President Andrew Johnson(D). Same result...

- ***The GOP-controlled U.S. Senate*** – Big political winners, especially Majority Leader Trent Lott, who along with Demo Leader Tom Daschle, seemed to make bi-partisanship work like it ought to...

- ***Paula Corbin Jones*** – She's moved home to Arkansas – with a new nose & a little richer. Was the Jones lawsuit a *put up job* by Clinton's enemies???

- ***Linda Tripp*** – The *backstabber & betrayer* of Monica. However, she did convince Monica to save the blue dress. Without that dress and the DNA, it would have been he said/she said...

- ***Lucianne Made Me Do It*** – If you believe Mrs. Tripp, it was literary agent/Clinton hater Lucianne Goldberg of NY who encouraged Tripp to go to Starr with her Monica tapes...

- ***Ken Starr*** – His 4-year, \$40 million probe of the Clintons & Whitewater, travelgate, etc., was a bust. The only thing which kept Starr in business these past 13 months was Linda Tripp's tapes. *Loser*...

- ***Clinton's Legal Team*** – Charles Ruff, Greg

Craig, David Kendall and those two new-comers, Nicole Seligman & Cheryl Mills, are big winners...

- ***Clinton's Spin Team*** – James Carville and Paul Begala, along with former WH counsel Lanny Davis are big winners...

- ***The House Impeachment Mgrs.*** – The whole case against Pres. Clinton was *weak* to begin with and should never have been presented to the Senate, especially charge #1 (perjury). Losers!!!

- ***The U.S. Constitution*** – If there was a really big winner, it was the document written by our Founding Fathers. It served the nation well...

...The bottomline: Perhaps presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin summed it up best on 2/13/99 while appearing on Tim Russert's CNBC show: *It's not that the American public likes Clinton, it's that they don't like his enemies*. Stay tuned...

BAVARO VS. MCGRAW: BATTLING FOR THE CRP CHAIR.

Editor's note: The CA Republican Party's winter convention in Sacramento is about 5 days away (Feb. 26-28). Here is another update...

...GOP insiders watching the current battle unfold believe it is a *long shot* that the GOP insurgents, led by Modesto businessman Nicholas Bavaro, will pull an upset and oust the current leadership team, led by CRP Vice Chair John McGraw. But insiders are unwilling to bet the ranch, because the voting will be done by *secret ballot*. McGraw and Bavaro, a former regional CRP vice chair, hope to replace Michael Schroeder as party chair. Only once in the past 130 years has a CRP vice chair failed to win the top party post...

...McGraw has been working CRP delegates and GOP elected officials since last summer and everything was running smoothly until he opened his mouth and inserted his foot during a January interview in a Catholic publication. He said in part, "Killing our babies is the issue of the century... Cutting taxes or any other issue pales in comparison." That statement set off the abortion debate once again...

...Bavaro, on the other hand, just started campaigning in late January. There have been no open defections

from McGraw's camp. Bavaro says he respects the tradition of moving up the CRP ladder, but says the devastating defeat suffered by the Calif. GOP in '98 "justifies our attempt to change the direction of the party." Bavaro told **Calpeek** his late-starting campaign is "in the hunt."...

...The insurgent message, first pronounced by GOP activist **Bob Larkin**, that the current leadership should take responsibility for the debacle of 1998 and resign, has been lost in recent weeks because of McGraw's **anti-abortion** views. But the original message of taking responsibility had an appealing ring, according to one hardline CRP delegate, who said if the insurgents return to their original message, Bavaro & Co. might do better than expected. It's no secret Schroeder's leadership at the CRP has come in for some harsh criticism -- and McGraw can't hide from that because he was and is part of the team...

CAMPAIGN '99: EARLY SPRING MUNI ELECTIONS.

Editor's note: Here is Part V in our continuing series of reports & updates about early Spring municipal elections. This week we'll again focus on L.A. City, which has its primary on April 13th...

◆ **7th Council District** – Although there are others in this contest, this is still a 2-person race between legislative staffer **Alex Padilla** and community activist **Corinne Sanchez**. Padilla is a 25-year-old *wunderkind*, who went to Paoima High and graduated from MIT. He's worked for U.S. Sen. **Dianne Feinstein** and more recently for Assemblyman **Tony Cardenas**. He's a *workaholic* with tons of energy and lots of support. L.A. Mayor **Richard Riordan**, Lt. Gov. **Cruz Bustamante**, 8 members of the State Legislature - and he's also endorsed by L.A. Co. Fed. of Labor's **COPE** and the **L.A. Co. Demo Party**...

...But in Sanchez there is person with a track record and years of running a social service agency serving 25,000 people. Sanchez doesn't have the kind of support that Padilla does, but nevertheless has a very impressive list. State Sen. **Richard Alarcon** – this was his seat - is her key endorsement. Others supporters are L.A. Co. Sup. **Gloria Molina**, State Sen. **Hilda Solis** and L.A. Councilmembers **Mike Feuer** & **Laura Chick**...

◆ **14th Council District** – In the battle to replace L.A. Councilman **Richard Alatorre**, the big and rather shocking news is that one of top tier candidates, Dr. **Jorge Mancillas**, SEIU's So. Calif. political director, failed to qualify. Although he turned in more than 936 signatures, the registrar verified only 414. Sources say there were some 287 names submitted that the registrar couldn't even find records for. With Mancillas out, it might open up a possible endorsement by the L.A. Co. Fed. of Labor (**COPE**). **COPE** stayed neutral because **Victor Griego** and **Juan Jose Gutierrez** had just enough votes to block Mancillas. Griego seems to be in a little better position to win labor's endorsement. **Alvin Parra**, who ran against Alatorre four years ago, won the backing of the **L.A. Co. Demo Party**. He's pushing to get into the top tier with Griego, Gutierrez and Dep. DA **Nick Pacheco**, who has been endorsed by L.A. Mayor **Richard Riordan**. This battle is still wide open. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Editor's note: Although we've touched upon several upcoming U.S. House races in our stories about the impeachment of Pres. Bill Clinton, this is our first full update about House contests in 2000...

☒ **50th CD** – U.S. Rep. **Bob Filner**(D-San Diego) has announced that he will seek reelection in 2000 and will not run for Mayor of San Diego...

☒ **27th CD** – This is the seat of U.S. Rep. **James Rogan**(R-Glendale), perhaps #1 nationwide on the DCCC's target list. Many voters in this swing CD are furious with Rogan, not only for his vote to impeach Pres. Clinton, but because he was one of the 13 House Impeachment Managers. And of the 13, many think Rogan was the most aggressive. For those who really didn't know him well, he has portrayed himself as a moderate, but in fact he takes a hardline conservative position on many issues. The **National Journal** puts Rogan's voting record *to the right* of U.S. Sen. **Jesse Helms**(R-NC). **Garin/Hart/Yang Research** surveyed the 27th CD for the DCCC during the Senate impeachment trial and found Rogan's reelect number at only 34%. And 55% of voters in the 27th CD were opposed to impeachment. Names mentioned most often as Demo challengers are **Barry Gordon**, who ran against Rogan in '98 and narrowly lost; State Sen. **Adam Schiff**; and Assemblyman **Jack Scott**. All three are

looking, but many insiders favor either Schiff or Scott. FYI: a very interesting article by Harold Meyerson in the Feb. 12-18 issue of *L.A. Weekly*, titled "James Rogan – Rogue Prosecutor." www.lawweekly.com...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***Tinky Winky Flap*** – There's never been much doubt that The Rev. Jerry Falwell was homophobic. But Falwell's statement that kiddy TV's "Teletubbies" character *Tinky Winky* was designed as a role model for the "gay lifestyle" sent conservative David Horowitz of the Center for the Study of Popular Culture, over the edge. Horowitz said, "It would be comforting to think that Jerry Falwell had just lost his marbles. Unfortunately, this is (as the House managers like to say) a pattern where The Reverend is concerned. If this Falwell moment doesn't prove that he deserves to be 'removed' as a conservative spokesman, I don't know what would."...

■ ***Spending Record Set*** – In the '98 race for State Senate in the 2nd SD, combined spending by Demo winner Wes Chesbro and GOP loser John Jordan set a record of \$6.4 million. The previous record was set in '96 in the 15th SD, when now Sen. Bruce McPherson (R) and Demo challenger Rusty Areias spent a total of \$3.1 million...

■ ***Chicken Vs. Donuts*** – Election giveaways to encourage voter turnout has been pretty much SOP for Demos, especially in legislative special elections. And that's just what the CA Demo Party did Feb. 2nd in the 16th AD special, where former Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris(D) won the Demo primary. The CDP spent thousands on free chicken dinners to motivate voters. The Green Party has filed a complaint with the FPPC, but there's nothing wrong with this tactic. Demos first used free donuts to encourage voters in a big 1987 State Senate special, where Cecil Green(D) defeated GOP Assemblyman Wayne Grishman. As long as there are no federal candidates on the ballot, it's OK...

■ ***So Long to P&F and Reform Parties*** – Not enough voters cast ballots for Peace & Freedom or Reform Party candidates so the CA Sec. of State has

tossed them off the ballot for 2000 UNLESS they re-register 86,176 voters. The Reform Party claims registration of 88,724 and the SOS confirms that the Reform Party will most likely requalify...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook. We've got lots of these items in our computer bank...

● Demo political consultant John Whitehurst moves his firm from S.F. to 1440 Broadway, Ste. 810, Oakland, CA 94612. New ☎ is (510)839-7500...

● Claremont-based Pacific Research & Strategies has hired Lisa Krueger, Shameka Miller as Admin. Asst.; and Lani Walls as Exec. Asst...

● L.A. Councilwoman Laura Chick has hired Kristin Vellandi as her new communications deputy. Chick has also named community activist Deane Leavenworth as her new district director in Reseda...

● El Dorado Co. Sup. Raymond J. Nutting is the new president of the Regional Council of Rural Counties for 1999...

● The Sacto-based Assn. for Calif. Tort Reform has promoted Barbara Wheeler to VP of Legislation and has hired Jeff Sievers as Legislative Advocate...

● Gov. Gray Davis(D) has named Kathleen Hamilton to head the CA Dept. of Consumer Affairs. Hamilton was Davis' deputy COS from 1995-98...

● Boling & Boling, political CPAs, have a new office at 7185 Navajo Rd., Suite #L, San Diego, CA 92119. New ☎(619)667-7650...

● Roger Lee, president of The Strategy Source, has relocated to 1329 Connecticut Ave., NW, Ste. #200, Washington DC 20036. Greg Sellers left the firm when he was elected to the Morgan Hill City Council...

● Jon Rainwater is the new executive director of the CA League of Conservation Voters(CLCV). He was CLCV's membership director for the past 4 years...